



ROBINSON · GOYER · YEDWELL · CHAMPAGNE

48

DEC 98

STARMAN



STARS MY DESTINATION:
— A BLUE WORLD —

FROM THE SHADE'S JOURNAL...

Jack Knight and Mikael Tomas have gone into space in search of another Starman, Will Payton. (How the rocket they found was built, when and by who is a story that will be told, I promise.)

But let's go back for a moment. To just before they left Earth...

... ISN'T THERE MORE YOU NEED TO TELL ME, THOUGH? YOU KNOW... ABOUT THIS SHIP. ABOUT SPACE. ABOUT-

I'LL TELL YOU LATER.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

YOU WILL.

DID YOU HEAR THAT, MIKAAL? I'M ABOUT TO GO INTO SPACE AND MY DAD'S BEING COY. I SWEAR, HE'S STARTING TO BECOME ONE OF THOSE WEIRD OLD MEN.

I DOUBT THAT, JACK. BUT WE SHOULDN'T WASTE TIME WORRYING ABOUT THAT NOW. WE HAVE TO GET STRAPPED IN BEFORE BLAST-OFF.

"ALL RIGHT, THEN. WITHOUT FURTHER ADO..."

YOU READY, MAN?

ERR... I'M PREPARED FOR WHATEVER HAPPENS. BUT AM I READY FOR IT? NO.

"LET'S PUT A FLAME TO THIS CANDLE, SHALL WE?"

"I FEEL AWFUL, MR. KNIGHT. I WANTED HIM TO GO... I WANTED TO FIND MY BROTHER WILL SO BADLY.

"BUT NOW... SEEING HIM GO... I REALIZE THE DEPTH THAT I LOVE JACK. I'M SCARED I'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN. I'M SCARED HE MAY DIE OUT THERE."

"NONSENSE, MY DEAR.

"YES, HE WENT BECAUSE YOU ASKED HIM, WHICH I SUPPOSE SHOWS HIS DEPTH OF FEELING FOR YOU."

"BUT I KNOW ALSO HE FELT
IT WAS HIS DESTINY TO GO. HE
IS STARMAN, AFTER ALL..."

WHOOAAA,
MOMMA!



"...AND HE BELONGS
OUT THERE."



STARMAN BLUES: Stars My Destination Part One

James Robinson & David Goyer story
James Robinson words
Steve Yeowell penciller
Kelth Champagne inker
Bill Oakley letters
Gregory Wright colors
G C W color separations
Peter Tomasi editor
Archie Goodwin guiding light

HOURS PASS...

MAN, MAN, MAN...

I KNEW THIS WOULD BE COOL BUT--

SEE THAT LIGHT OVER THERE? IF MY DAD'S COMPUTERS ARE WORKING RIGHT--

--THAT'S PLUTO!



WE'RE ABOUT TO GO INTER-STELLAR?!

THAT'S RIGHT! GIVE ME FIVE, MY GAY BLUE BROTHER!

... AND HOURS. AND HOURS...

OKAY, SO THIS IS SPACE.

IT WAS COOL FOR A WHILE. NOW IT'S MORE LIKE A SLOW BOAT TO FRESNO.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I THOUGHT. TOM CORBETT. DAN DARE. BUT DAD PROGRAMMED THE SHIP'S COMPUTER SO IT TAKES CARE OF EVERYTHING.

WE'RE "SPAM IN A CAN," AS IT WAS ONCE SAID OF THE MERCURY SEVEN.

I'M GOING TO EXPLORE THE SHIP SOME ...

... I KNOW MY DAD WAS BUSY MAKING IT LIVABLE. AND THE GUY WHO INVENTED IT HAD A FUNKY IDEA OF WHAT SPACE EXPLORERS NEEDED TO GET BY.

APPARENTLY, THERE'S A PRETTY GOOD LIBRARY.

BOOKS? OLD BOOKS?

I SMELL COLLECTIBLES.

GO, BLOODHOUND. I'M HAPPY TO SIT HERE AND LOOK OUT.

IS THIS LIKE GOING HOME FOR YOU?

IT'S LIKE ... ERR ... LIKE I'M GOING ON WITH MY LIFE FINALLY, IF THAT MAKES SENSE.

SO, I THINK THE LIBRARY IS--

MUSIC? I DIDN'T KNOW DAD INSTALLED--

WHAT IN GOD'S NAME?!



AH, JACK.
I WONDERED
HOW LONG IT
WOULD TAKE YOU
TO FIND ME.

DAD!

NO. IN FACT, I'M CLOSER TO
BEING YOUR MOTHER.

I FELL ASLEEP IN THE
COCKPIT, RIGHT? THIS IS
WHERE DAVID JUMPS OUT AND
SAYS "PSYCHE" LIKE HE DOES
EVERY YEAR? DAVEY?
WHERE ARE YOU?

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND.

YOU AND ME BOTH.

MR. KNIGHT?!

HELLO,
MIKAAL. GOOD
TO SEE YOU.
ALTHOUGH I WAS
JUST SAYING TO
JACK--

LET ME
EXPLAIN--

... NO, I KNOW
WHO CAN BETTER
EXPLAIN FOR
ME...



THE JUSTICE LEAGUE!

HELLO, JACK. IF YOU'RE WATCHING THIS, YOU'RE ALREADY IN SPACE.

WHEN WE MET YOU, PERHAPS IT WASN'T APPARENT HOW DISAPPOINTED WE WERE THAT WE WERE UNABLE TO HELP YOU AT THIS TIME.

WE COULDN'T LEND YOU A ROCKET. AND WE CERTAINLY COULDN'T GO INTO SPACE WITH YOU, NOT FOR THE LENGTH OF TIME YOU MAY BE GONE.

BUT WE BELIEVE IN THE KNIGHT NAME AND THAT YOUR INTENTIONS ARE VALID AND WORTHY.



WILL PAYTON, THE STARMAN BEFORE YOU, WAS ONE OF US. MANY OF US WERE THERE WHEN HE APPARENTLY DIED DEFEATING ECLIPSO. WE ALL SAW HIS VALOR.

AND IF THERE IS EVEN THE REMOTE CHANCE THAT VALIANT SPIRIT STILL EXISTS THIS SIDE OF THE GREAT WALL, WE ARE THANKFUL ANOTHER BRAVE SOUL SUCH AS YOU SEEKS TO FIND IT.

IT IS FOR THIS REASON I GRANTED YOUR FATHER'S REQUEST AND LENT HIM TECHNOLOGY FROM NEW GENESIS... A MOTHER BOX.

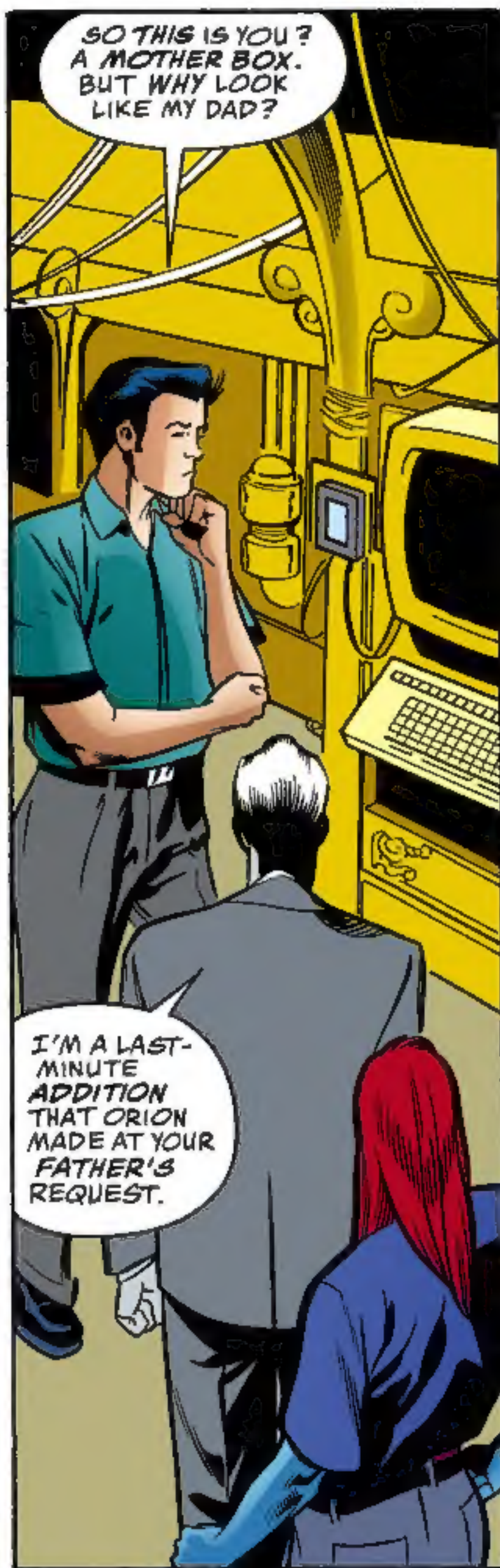
METRON'S A COLD ONE, JACK, BUT HIS DATA ON OTHER GALAXIES IS WAY BEYOND ANYTHING EARTH SCIENTISTS HAVE.

SO IN CLOSING, JACK, WE ALL WISH YOU LUCK WITH THE GRAND ODYSSEY YOU UNDERTAKE.

I MADE SURE IT CONTAINED DATA FROM METRON THE ALL-KNOWING, SO YOUR JOURNEY STARWARD WOULD NEVER LACK FOR INFORMATION.

MAY YOU RETURN HOME SAFELY WITH WILL PAYTON, AND KNOW THROUGHOUT WHATEVER TRAVAILS YOU MAY ENCOUNTER, THAT AT LEAST IN SPIRIT...

...THE JUSTICE LEAGUE GOES WITH YOU!



SO THIS IS YOU?
A MOTHER BOX.
BUT WHY LOOK
LIKE MY DAD?

I'M A LAST-
MINUTE
ADDITION
THAT ORION
MADE AT YOUR
FATHER'S
REQUEST.



ORION ENCODED TED KNIGHT'S
PERSONALITY ENGRAMS. I
HAVE ALL THE THOUGHTS AND
MEMORIES OF YOUR FATHER, UP
UNTIL LAST WEEK WHEN THEY
WERE DOWNLOADED.



AND AS ORION SAID, I ALSO HAVE
ALL THE NAVIGATIONAL FILES AND
KNOWLEDGE OF NEW GENESIS
AND, MORE IMPORTANT, THE
NEW GOD, METRON.

SO IT'S LIKE I'VE
GOT MY DAD ALONG.
THAT IS...

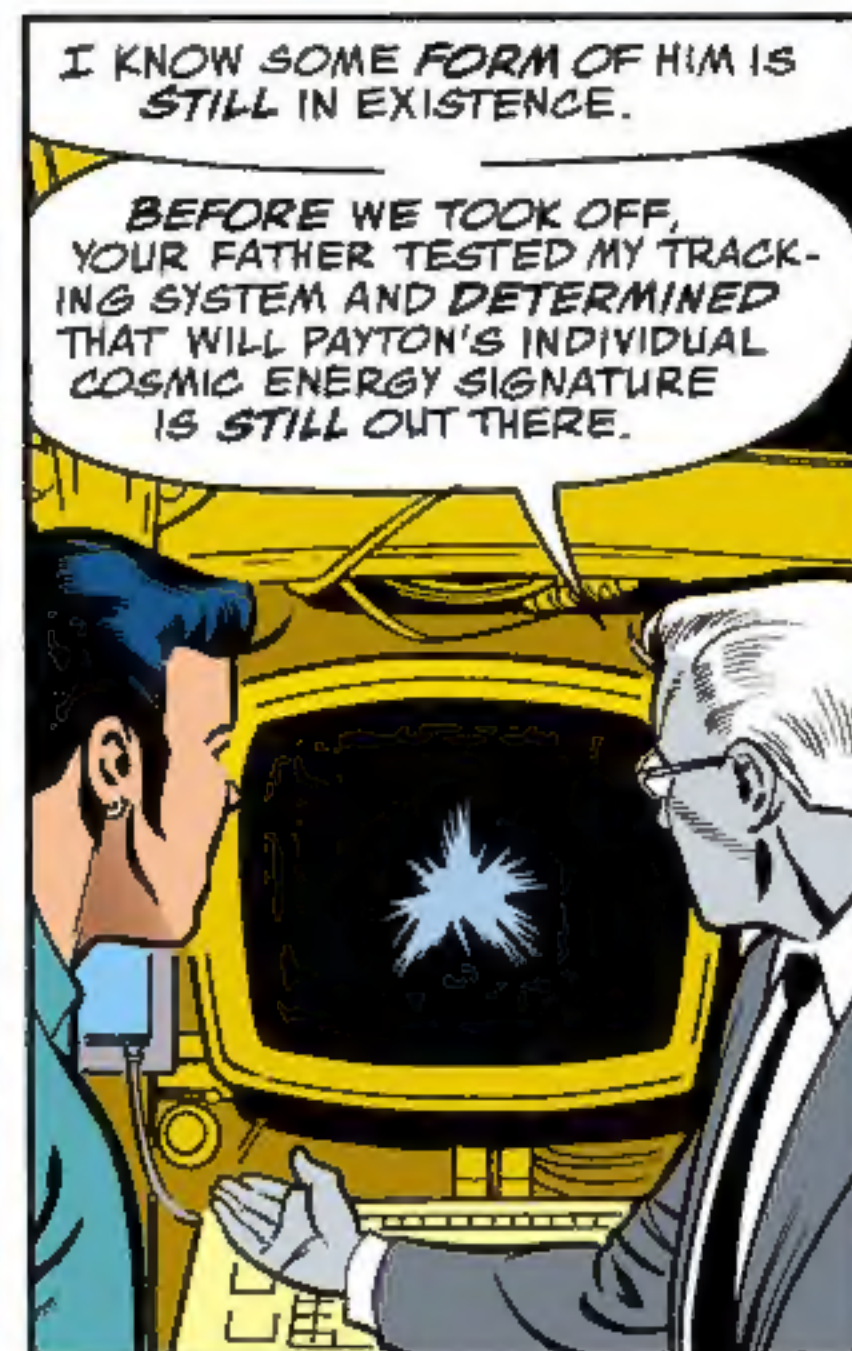


... COOLER
THAN WORDS.



I'M NOT YOUR FATHER. BUT HE
WANTED TO FEEL HE WAS GOING,
TOO. HE WANTED TO FEEL THAT
IN SOME WAY HE WAS PROTECT-
ING YOU DURING THIS VOYAGE
OF DISCOVERY.

SO, MOTHER
BOX, DO YOU
THINK WILL
PAYTON IS STILL
ALIVE?



I KNOW SOME FORM OF HIM IS
STILL IN EXISTENCE.

BEFORE WE TOOK OFF,
YOUR FATHER TESTED MY TRACK-
ING SYSTEM AND DETERMINED
THAT WILL PAYTON'S INDIVIDUAL
COSMIC ENERGY SIGNATURE
IS STILL OUT THERE.



AND YOU'RE CERTAIN ABOUT
THESE INDIVIDUAL SIGNATURES?
I HAVE ONE? MIKAAL HAD ONE
WHEN HE WAS COSMICALLY
POWERED? AND EACH IS AS
DIFFERENT AS--

AS A FINGERPRINT...
AS DNA... YOU CAN THANK
PAYTON'S OLD SWEETHEART
ON EARTH FOR THAT
DISCOVERY.



WHO?

KITTY FAULKNER.
SHE WORKS AT S.T.A.R.
LABS AND STUDIED
PAYTON'S COSMIC
PHYSIOLOGY.

CUTE.
A LITTLE
MOUSY.



YES, WELL, SHE HAS THE HABIT OF TRANSFORMING INTO SOMETHING FAR LESS CUTE AND/OR MOUSY.



RAMPAGE?!

THAT'S HER?!

REMIND ME IF I EVER DATE HER TO ALWAYS BE PUNCTUAL AND BRING FLOWERS.

LOTS AND LOTS OF FLOWERS.



SO WHERE IS PAYTON'S ENERGY? IS IT CLOSE BY?

ON THE CONTRARY. IT'S NOT IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM, NOR EVEN OUR GALAXY.



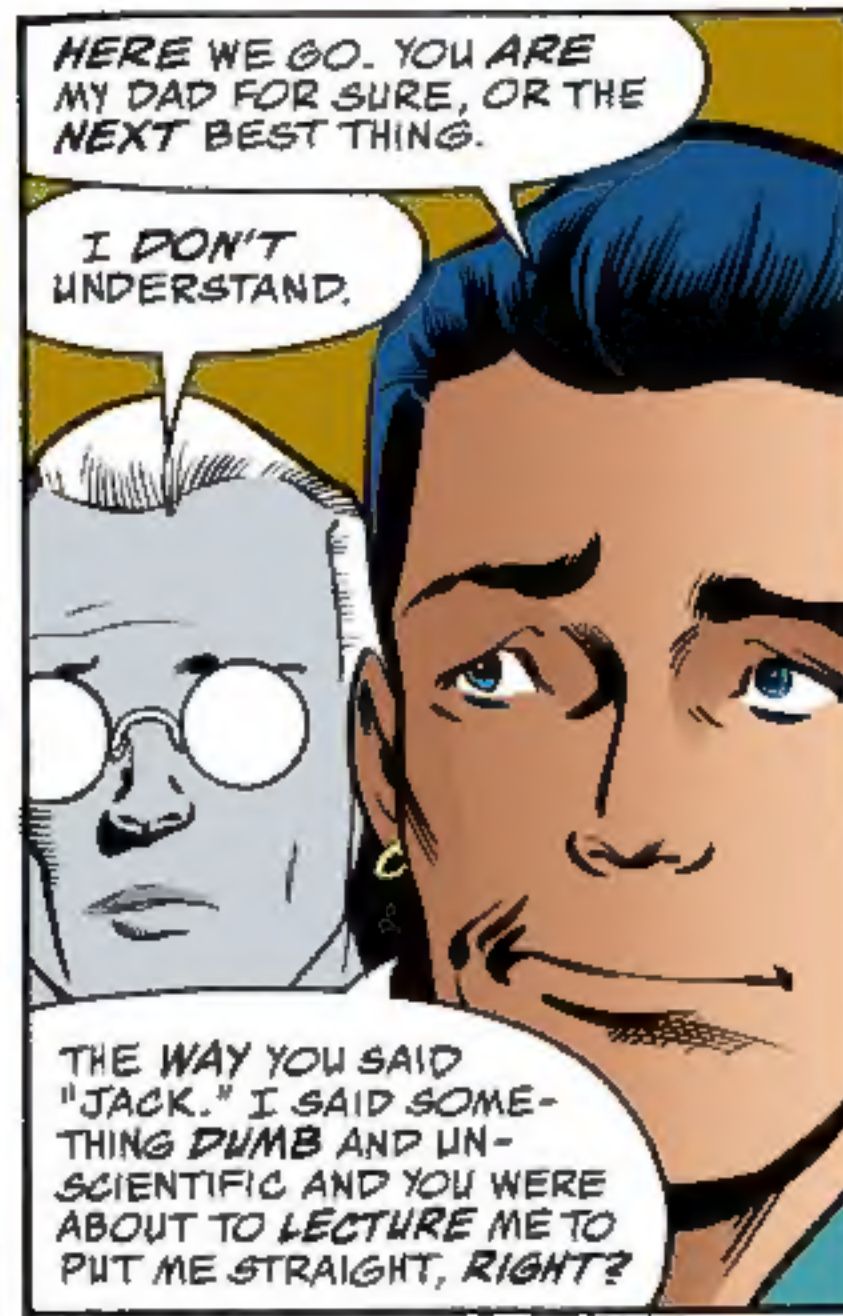
SEE THAT? IT'S A NEIGHBORING GALAXY KNOWN AS THE LARGE MAGELLANIC CLOUD.



COOL. WELL, WE SHOULD BE THERE BEFORE LONG, IF OUR CURRENT RATE OF SPEED IS ANYTHING TO GO BY.

WE CLEARED PLUTO IN NO TIME.

JACK...



HERE WE GO. YOU ARE MY DAD FOR SURE, OR THE NEXT BEST THING.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

THE WAY YOU SAID "JACK." I SAID SOMETHING DUMB AND UN-SCIENTIFIC AND YOU WERE ABOUT TO LECTURE ME TO PUT ME STRAIGHT, RIGHT?



ERR... I GUESS I AM THE NEXT BEST THING TO YOUR FATHER.

SO GO ON. I'M LISTENING.

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW LARGE A GALAXY IS?



IF WE TRAVELED AT LIGHT-SPEED, IT WOULD TAKE 80,000 YEARS TO CROSS OUR OWN GALAXY, MUCH LESS GET TO ANOTHER GALAXY BEYOND THAT.

Ohhhh, BOY.

LUCKILY, WE HAVE TWO THINGS IN OUR FAVOR. YOUR FATHER'S COSMIC ROD TECHNOLOGY, WHICH THE ROCKET ENGINE IS A GIANT VERSION OF... IT'S CREATING A CONTAINMENT FIELD AROUND THIS SHIP... KEEPING ITS FLIMSY TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY STRUCTURE WHOLE.

THE COSMIC ENERGY CONTAINMENT FIELD IS ALSO WARPING TIME-SPACE AROUND IT. DURING OUR TRIP WE'LL JUMP INTO HYPERSPACE AND THROUGH WORM HOLES DEPENDING ON THE DICTATES OF OUR NAVIGATIONAL COURSE.

THIS WILL BE FURTHER AIDED BY THE X-ELEMENT FROM NEW GENESIS ENCODED WITHIN MY MOTHER BOX CIRCUITRY. THIS WILL ALLOW THE SHIP TO EMPLOY AND INCORPORATE BOOM TUBE TECHNOLOGY TO FURTHER CUT DOWN ON OUR TRAVEL TIME.

HYPER-SPACE?

BOOM TUBE? WHOA, NOW I'M GETTING LOST!

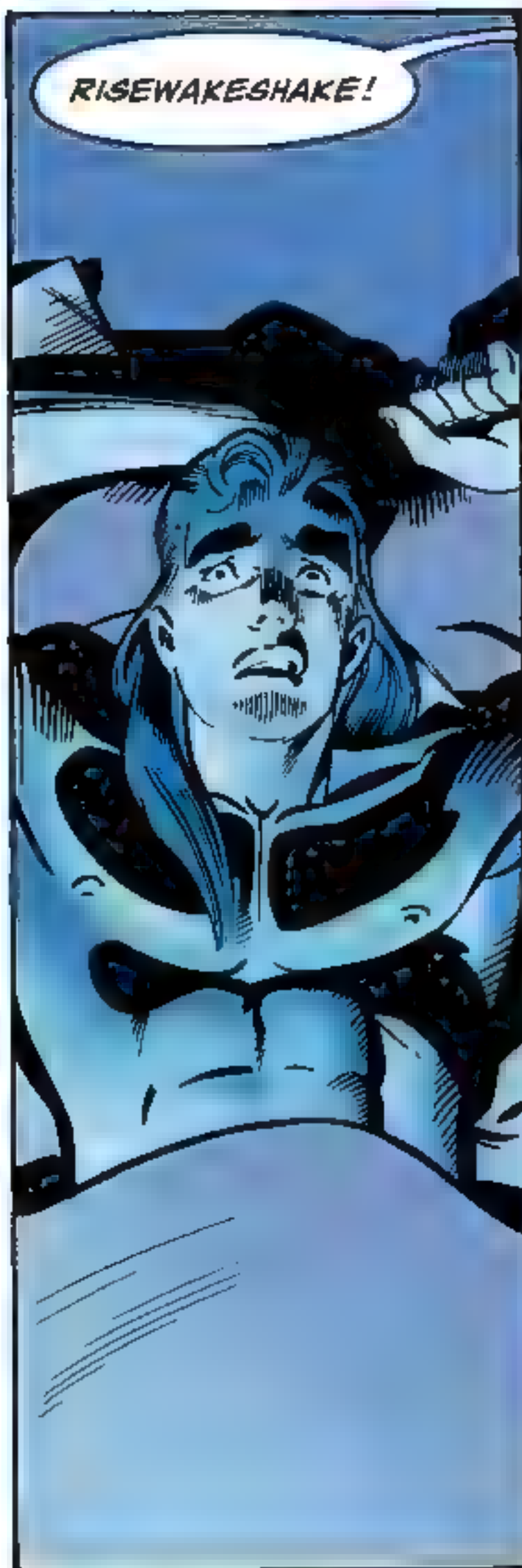
SHORT AND SWEET, DAD. ALL OF THIS STUFF ALLOWS US TO GO THROUGH SPACE FASTER. RIGHT? THAT'S THE UPSHOT.

NOW ME AND MIK AREN'T GOING TO BE AROUND FOR 80,000 PLUS YEARS, SO HOW LONG WILL THE TRIP TAKE?

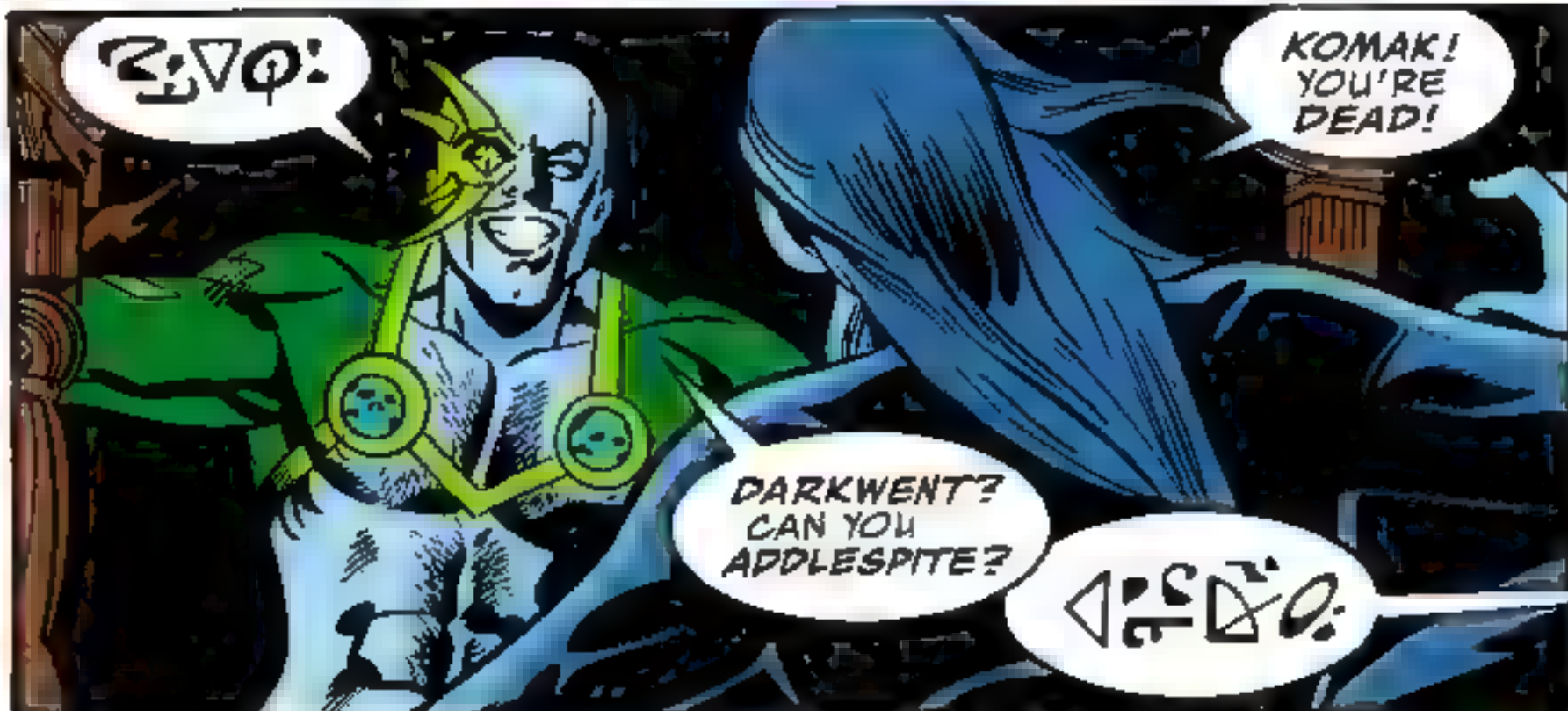
THREE AND A HALF WEEKS. ASSUMING...

YEAH?

...ASSUMING THAT NOTHING GOES WRONG.



RISEWAKESHAKE!



3.70!

KOMAK!
YOU'RE
DEAD!

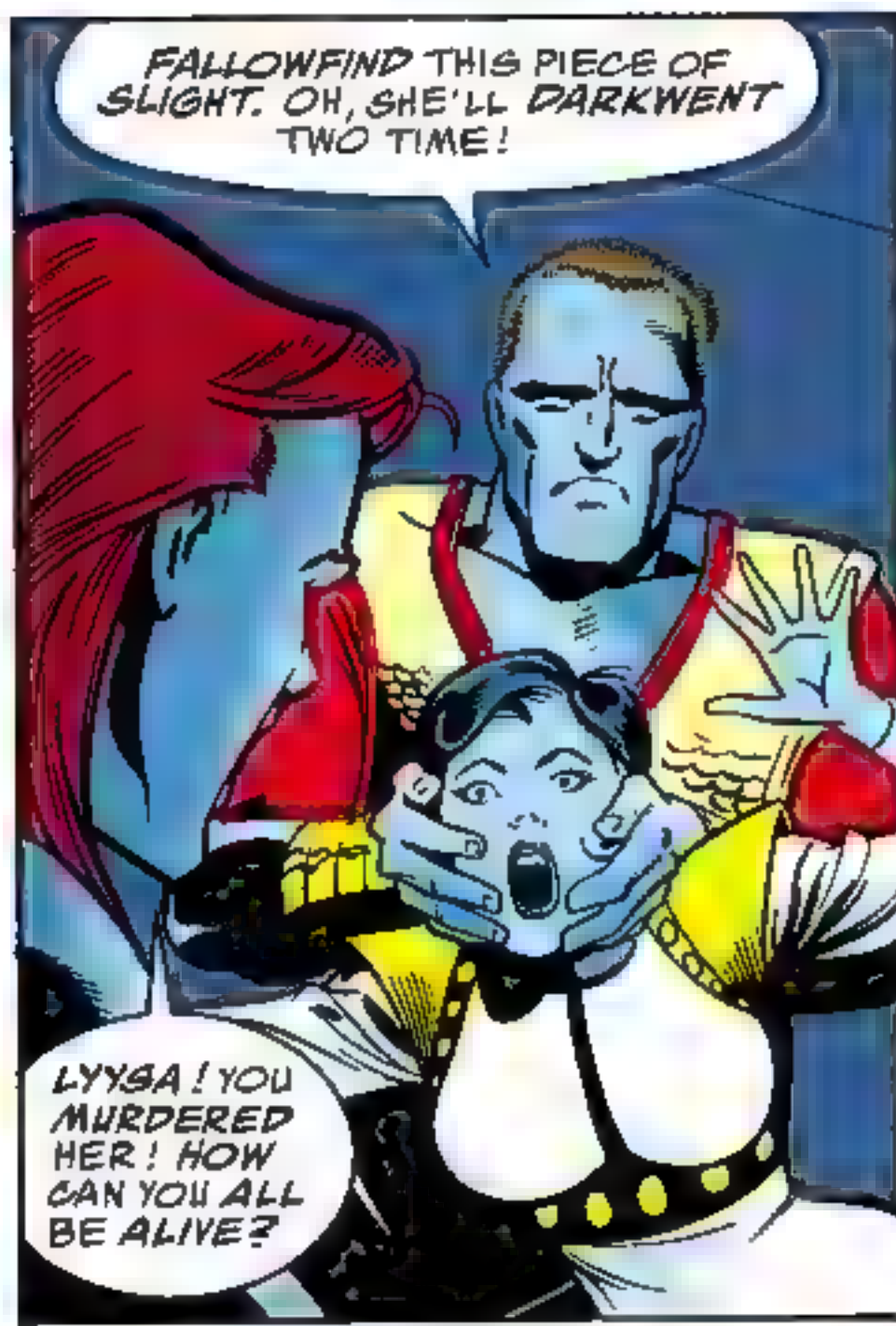
DARKWENT?
CAN YOU
ADDLESPITE?

4.50!



TURRAN KHA? YOU'RE
DEAD, TOO! I KILLED
YOU BOTH!

SLIP-
GLASS!
SAW AND
FLIGHT-
FAST!



FALLOWFIND THIS PIECE OF
SLIGHT. OH, SHE'LL DARKWENT
TWO TIME!

LYYSA! YOU
MURDERED
HER! HOW
CAN YOU ALL
BE ALIVE?



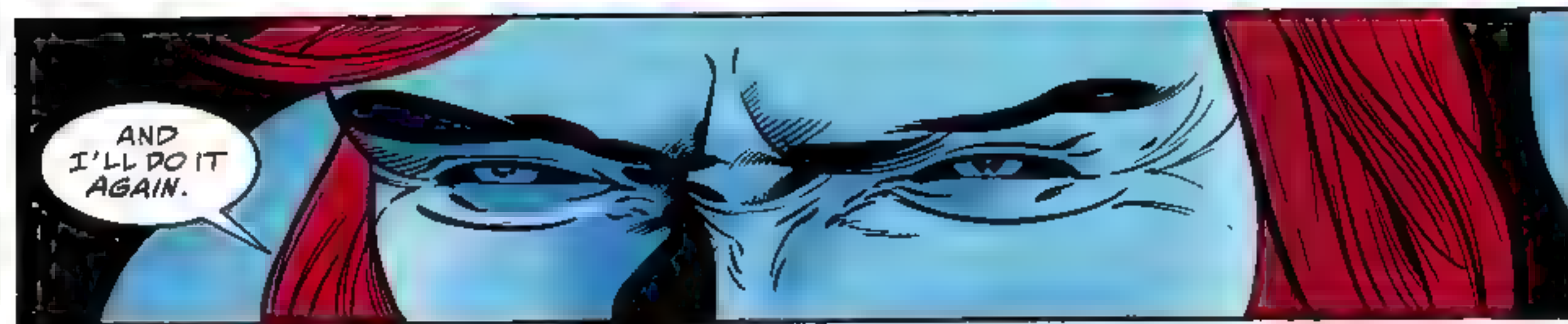
NOT
SHE!



NO! NO!!

I KILLED
YOU—

—KILLED
YOU ONCE.



AND
I'LL DO IT
AGAIN.

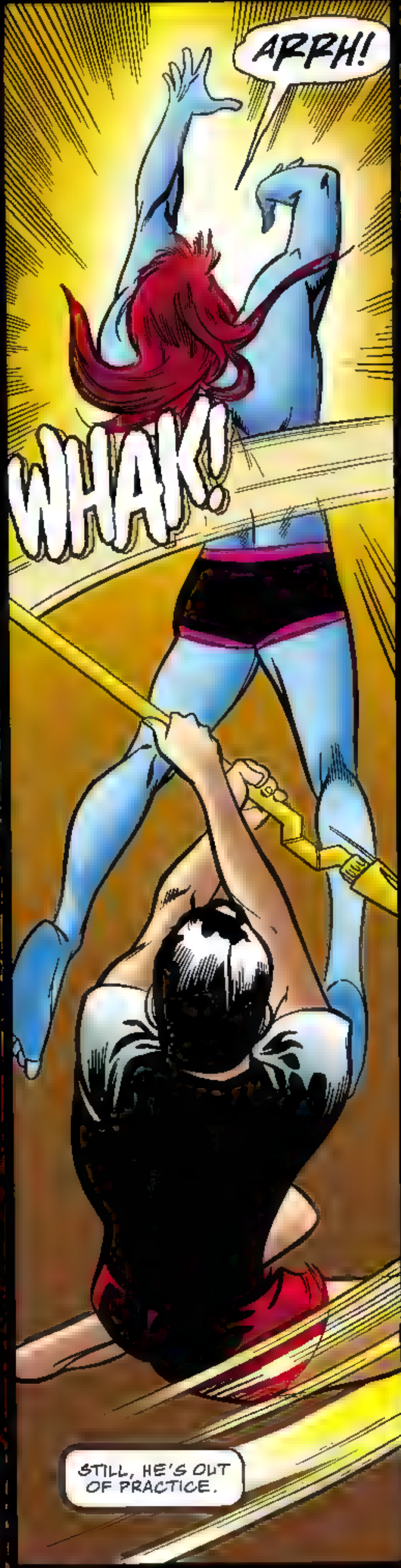




NNRRR--
AAHHH!

FAST... FASTER
THAN HE'S--

WILD LIKE--



ARRH!

WHAK!

STILL, HE'S OUT
OF PRACTICE.

LATER.

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT CAME
OVER ME!

I DREAMED
MY ENEMIES... OLD
DEAD ENEMIES. THEY
WERE ALIVE.

MY DEAD LOVE LYSSA. I
SAW HER, TOO. TURRAN
KHA KILLED HER A SECOND
TIME.

I WAS ANGRY.
I ATTACKED
THEM IN MY
DREAM.

YEAH, WELL, YOU
DID A PRETTY GOOD
JOB OF ATTACKING
ME AND THE SHIP,
TOO.

HOW MUCH
DAMAGE DID
WE SUSTAIN,
TED?

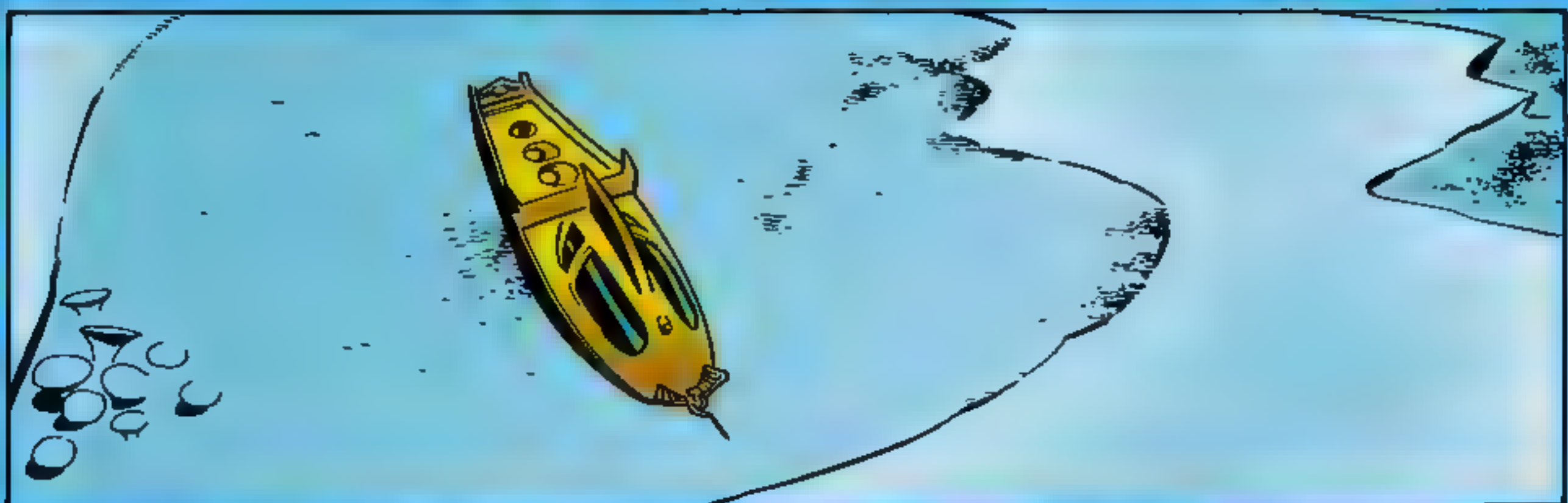
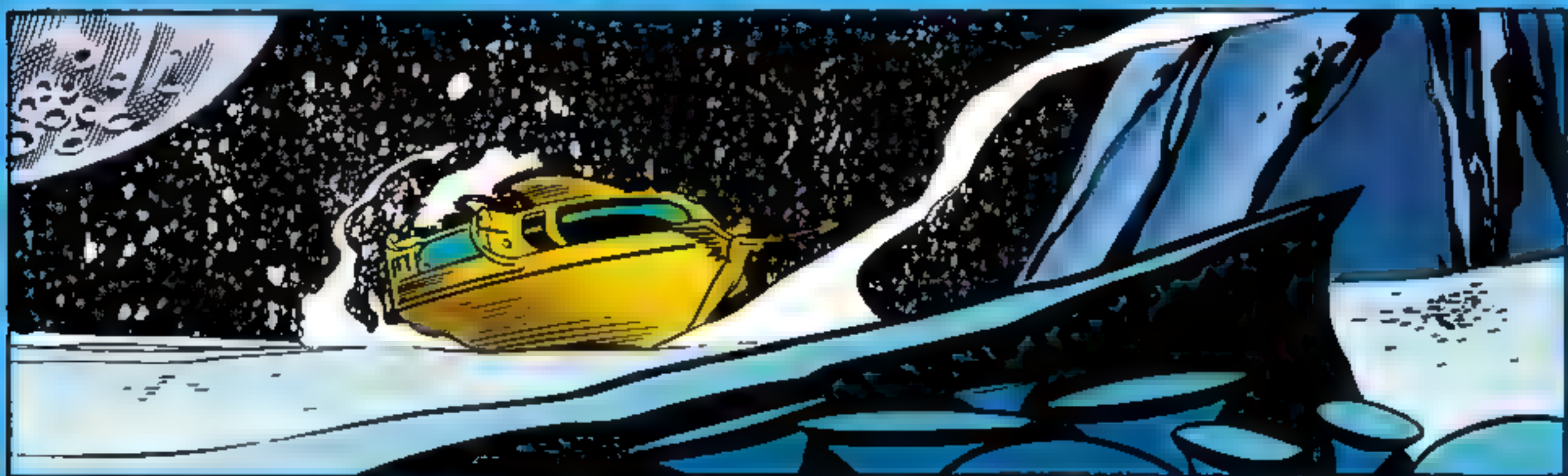
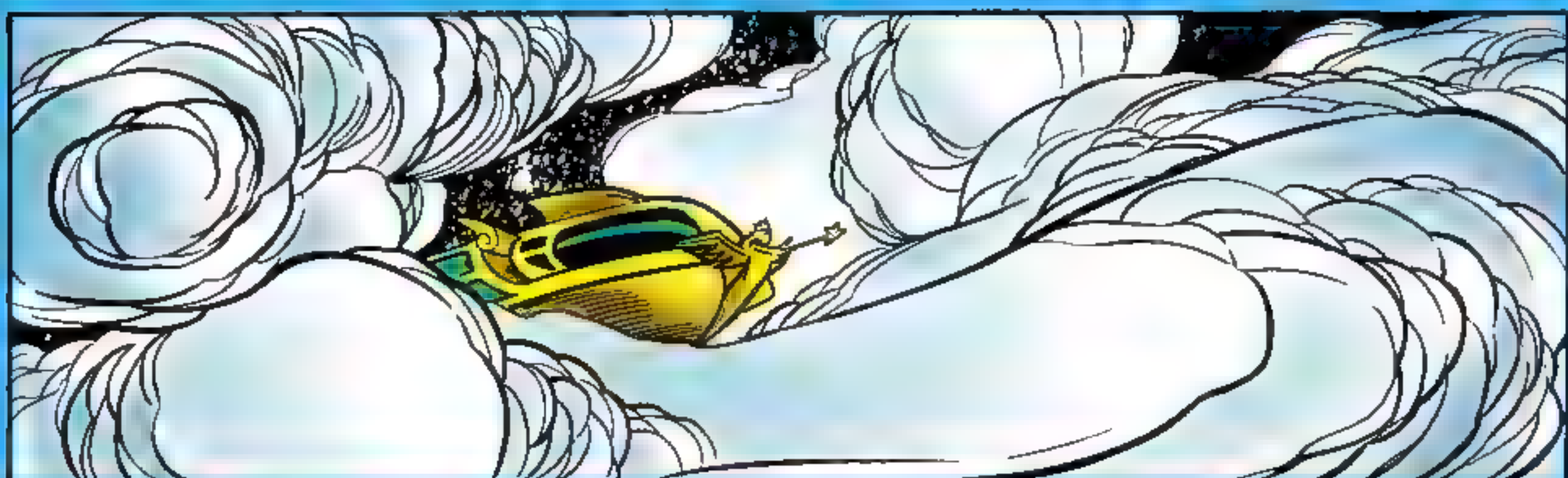
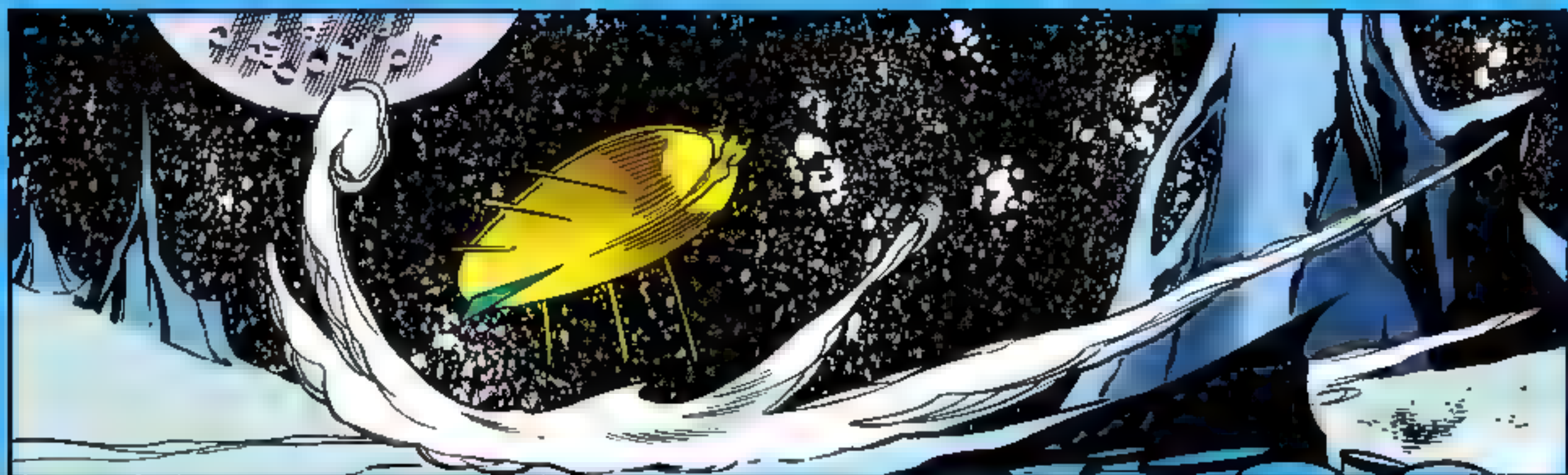
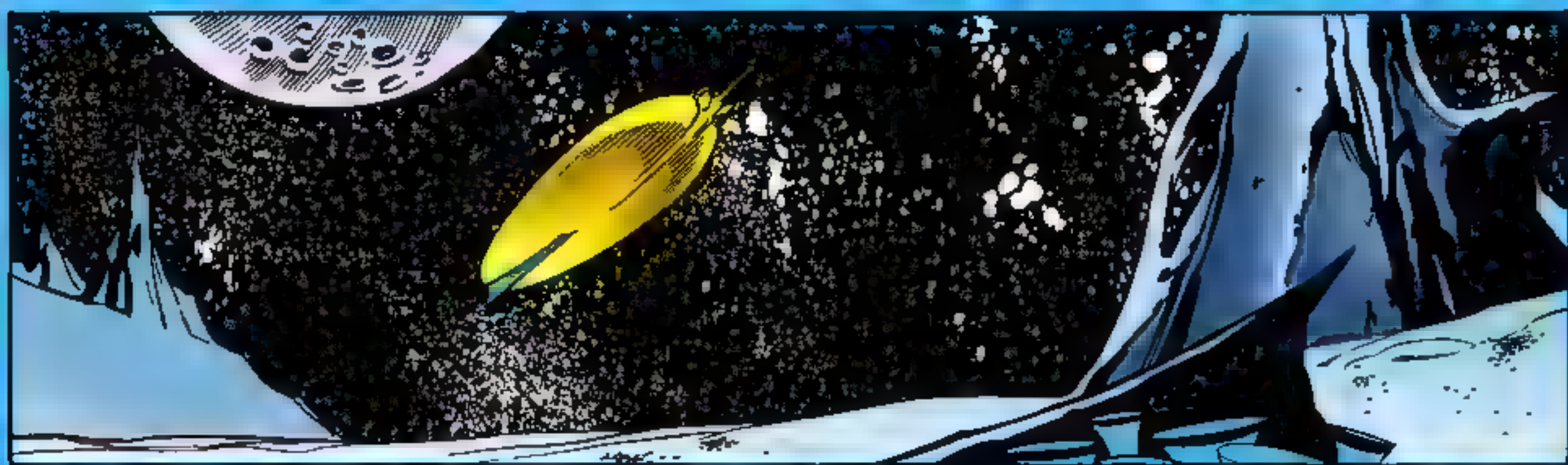
ENOUGH.
WE CAN'T CON-
TINUE WITHOUT
REPAIRS.

SO, WHAT, WE STOP?
HOVER HERE N SPACE
WHILE YOU DO THEM?

I WOULD
ADVISE
LANDING.

THERE.
THAT
PLANET.

...THAT
SMALL BLUE
PLANET.



ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO GO OUTSIDE, JACK?

THESE ARE S.T.A.R. LAB SPACE SUITS, AREN'T THEY? WE GOT 'EM, WE USE 'EM, YOU ASK ME. THEY HAVE RADIO HOOK UP, SO WE CAN COMMUNICATE OUT THERE. WHY NOT GO HAVE A LOOK-SEE?

WHY NOT? IT COULD BE DANGEROUS OUT THERE.

YEAH, WELL, THERE'S THE RISK THAT WE'LL STAY INDOORS, GET BORED AND DROWSY. MIKAAL FALLS ASLEEP AND THEN IT GETS DANGEROUS IN HERE, TOO.

I SAID I WAS SORRY, JACK.

IT'S COOL, MIK. I'VE GOTTEN WILD AND TRASHED A FEW ROOMS IN MY TIME, TOO.

TED, THE EXTERNAL SENSORS SAY THERE ARE NO SIGNS OF LIFE, RIGHT?

MY RECORDS SAY THE PLANET HASN'T EVEN BEEN NAMED.

I CAN ACCOMPANY YOU BOTH. JUST BE CAREFUL NOT TO WANDER TOO FAR. MY SIGNAL WILL BREAK UP IF I'M TOO FAR FROM THE SHIP.

HERE I GO. FIRST STEP. SMALL STEP FOR MAN, BIG STEP FOR MANKIND... AS THE SAYING'S SAID.

GROUND SOIL IS... SILK... TALC BENEATH MY FEET.

IT'S NOT THE MOON. NO TV CAMERAS TO WATCH IT, BUT IT STILL FEELS MOMENTOUS.

ME, JACK KNIGHT, THE FIRST LIVING THING TO SET FOOT ON THIS PLANET.

I'M NEIL ARMSTRONG. I'M EMPEROR OF THE NORTH POLE

I'M...

... JUST ANOTHER
JOHNNY-COME-LATELY!

WHAT IS THIS?

IT LOOKS
LIKE CHESS,
MIKAAL.

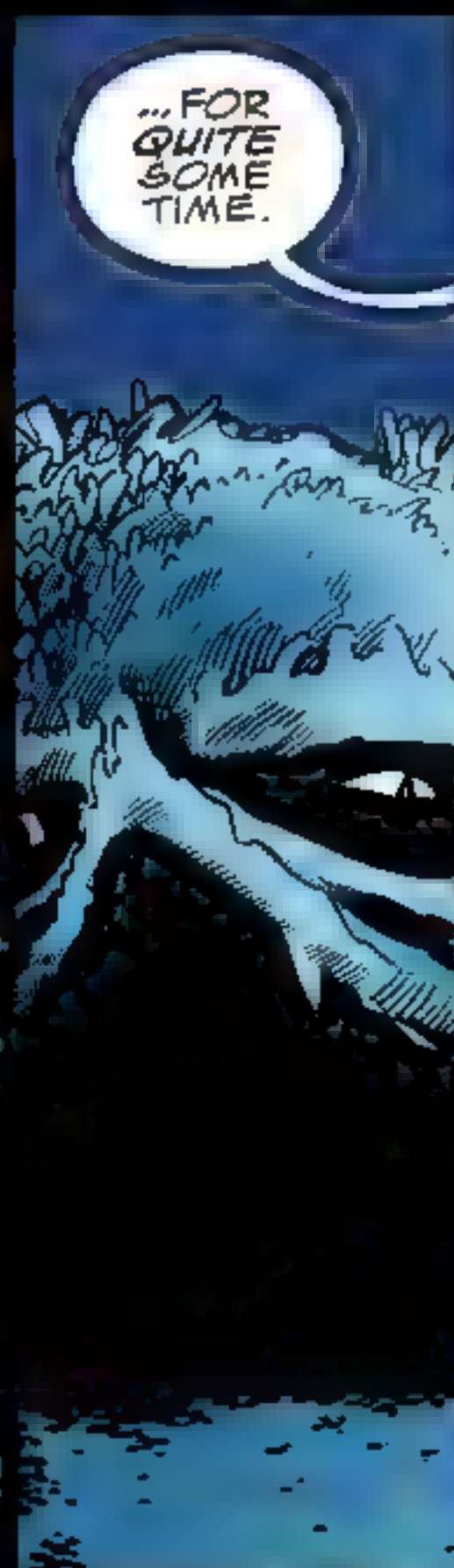
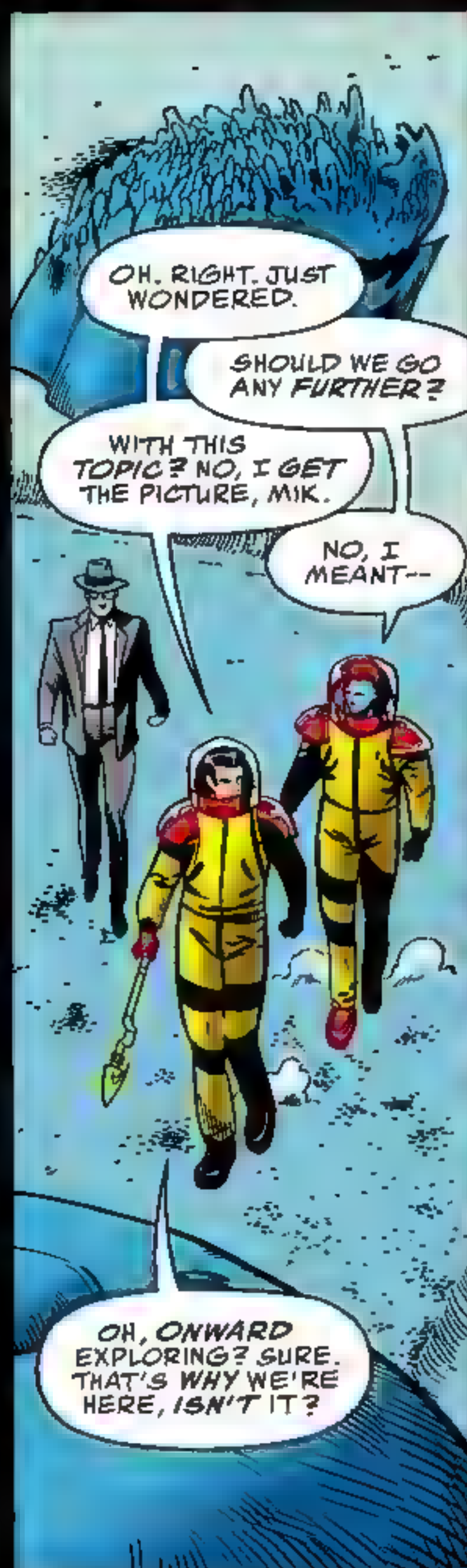
BUT CHESS
IS AN EARTH
GAME.

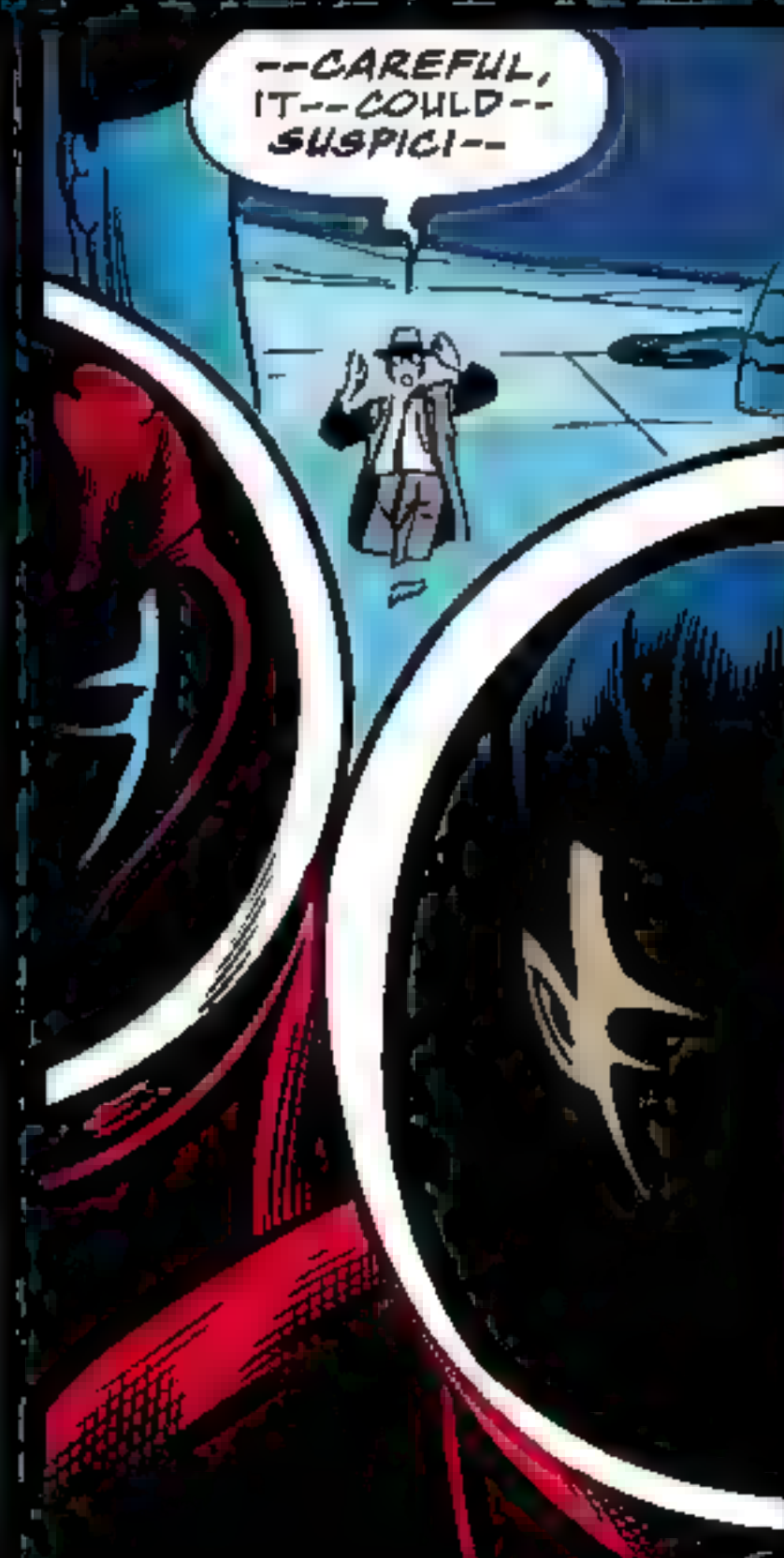
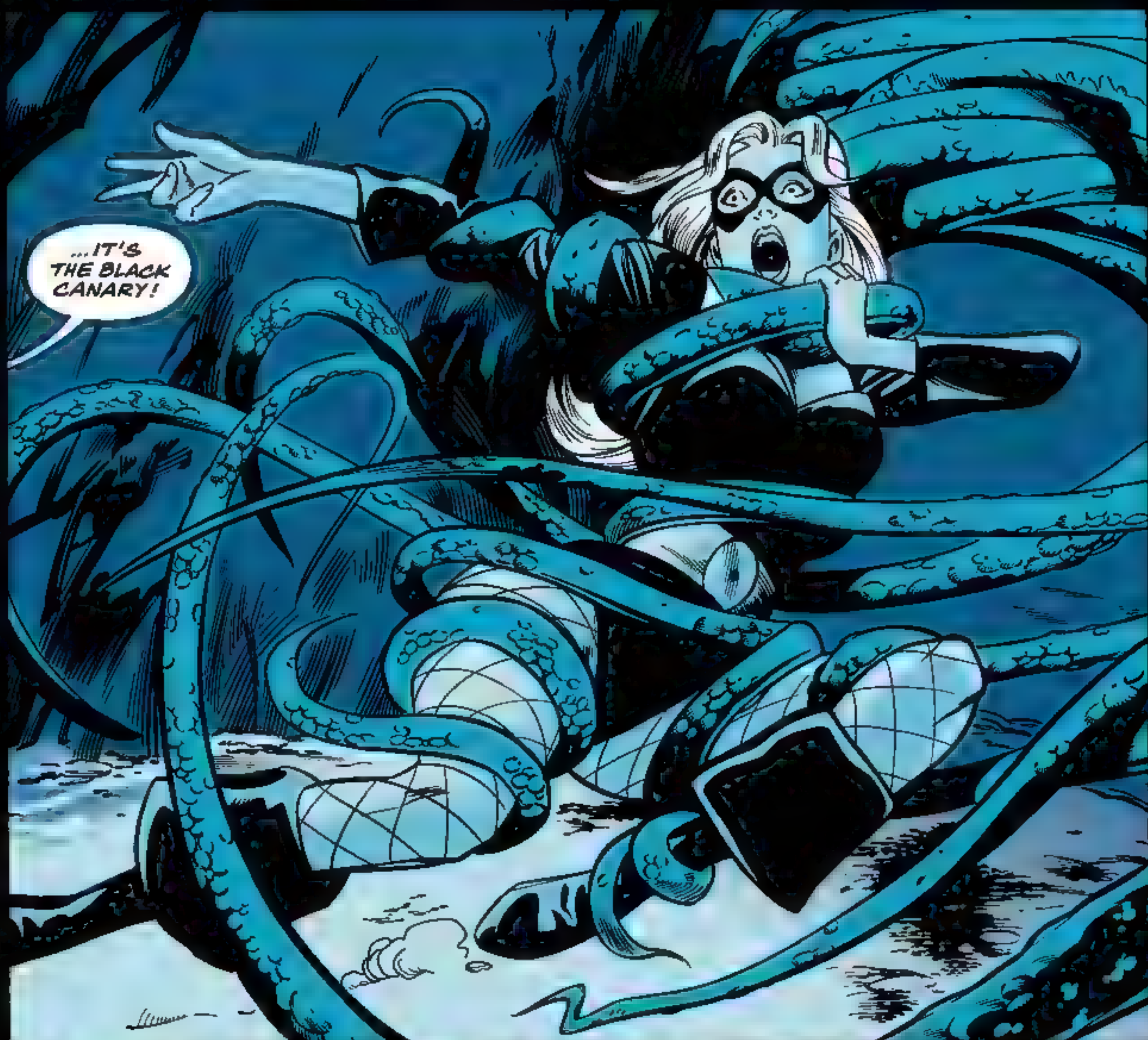
YEAH, AND IT
VERY OFTEN COMES
TRAVEL-SIZED. GOD
HELP US IF THIS IS TO
SCALE WITH WHOEVER
WAS PLAYING.

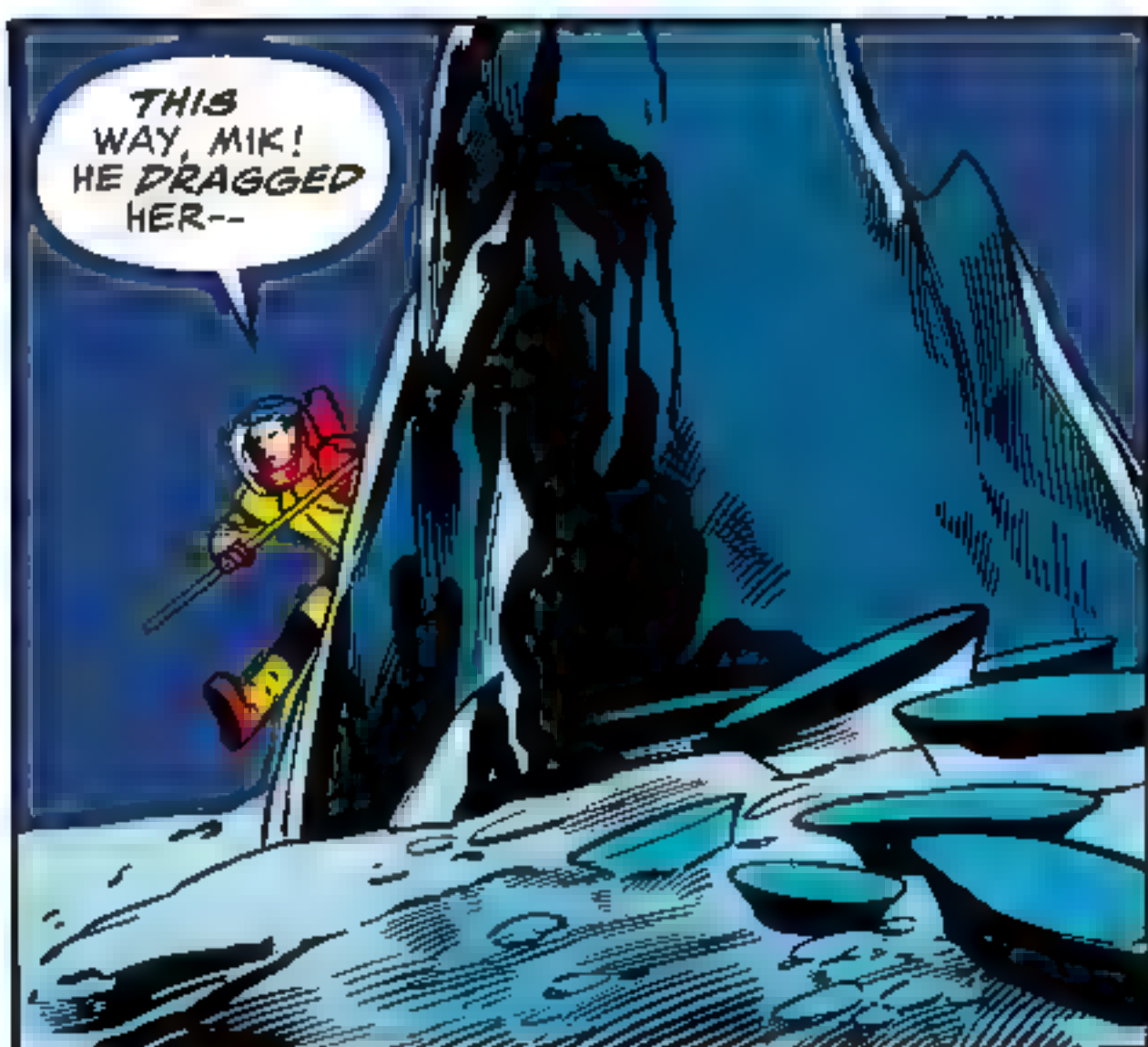
WEIRD.

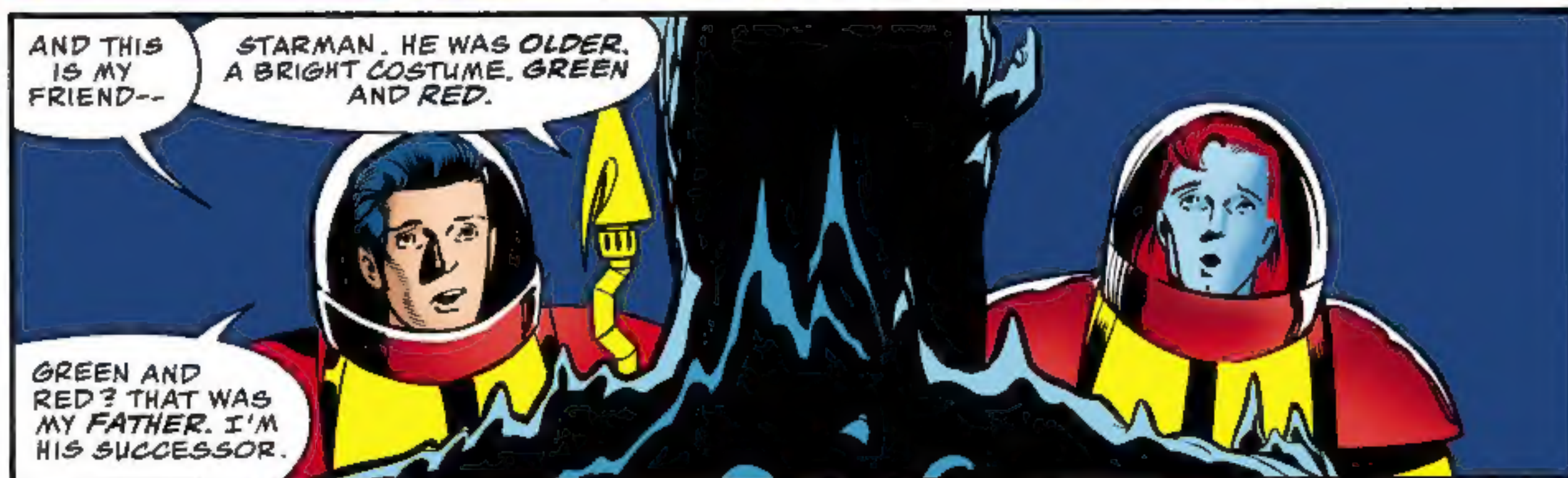
BEAUTIFUL, THOUGH.
ORGANIC. LIKE WHOEVER
BUILT THIS GREW THE
PIECES OUT OF THE GROUND.

THE BLUE
HUES ARE
LOVELY.











MIK!



MIK!



TO HAVE THE SON OF
ONE OF MY ENEMIES
HERE...



...IN A
ROCKET...

...TO HAVE HIM
GIVE ME A WAY OFF
THIS MISERABLE
PLANET.



IT COULDN'T
BE BETTER.



IS IT MONDAY
TODAY ON EARTH,
JACK KNIGHT? I'M
SURE IT MUST
BE.



IT SURE
FEELS LIKE MY
BIRTHDAY!

NEXT ISSUE: JACK VS. GRUNDY!
PLUS... TALKING WITH DAVID '99!

Deadman Wade

"THIS IS WHAT
AWESOME
LOOKS LIKE".

DCP